WASHINGTON.

2000

calliberty and Union, now and forever, one and

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1851.

THE LIGHTHOUSE ESTABLISHMENT.

By an act of Congress, passed at the last session the Secretary of the Treasury was required to cause "a board to be convened, to be composed of two · officers of the navy of high rank, two officers of · the engineers of the army, and such civil officer of high scientific attainments as may be under the suffer the penalty of death. orders or at the disposition of the Treasury Des partment, and a junior officer of the navy to act as Establishment of the United States, and make a general detailed report and programme to guide · legislation in extending and improving the present system of construction, illumination, inspection,

4 and superintendence." Under the preceding provisions of the act of call their attention. Congress, we learn that the following gentlemen have been selected to form the above Board, viz. Commodore W. B. SHUBRICK and Commander S. F. DUPONT, of the Navy; Brevet Brigadier General J. G. TOTTEN, Chief of the Engineers; and Lieut. Col. James Kearney, of the Topographical Engi- but the story is that the project has entirely failed. neers : Professor A. D. BACHE, Chief of the Coast Survey; and Lieut. THORNTON S. JENKINS, of the Navy, as secretary.

The Board will meet in this city in the ensuing month, for the purpose of organization, previous to entering upon their highly important duties. These duties will embrace a full examination of the whole of the Lighthouse System of the United States, including a report as to any new lighthouses which may be required, and the selection of the sites for Nashville, Tennessee. them; the propriety of altering or changing the location, or of discontinuing any of those already existing; the mode of lighting them, furnishing the needful supplies, and superintending them; and resystem.

The labor will necessarily be great, as the task involves the necessity of a personal inspection of all the lighthouses, light-vessels, and beacons, amounting to some hundreds, along the whole of and round all of the Gulf coast to the Rio Grande.

From a Board, so judiciously selected, of Officers of high professional character and experience, valuable and reliable reports may be expected, and results of the greatest advantage to this branch of the public service.

The late Proclamation of the PRESIDENT of the United States, against infractions of the laws of the United States by foreigners and others engaged in organizing another expedition for the purpose of invading the Island of Cuba, was not, of course, issued without sufficient grounds. Information from the shores and islands of the Gulf of Mexico, and from other points South, as well as from New York, left no doubt of the atrocious design to renew the criminal enterprise which has once been so signally defeated.

On Saturday last, by the active exertions of the Marshal of the southern district of New York and his deputies, as we learn from the New York papers, several persons-some of them citizens who were known to have been engaged in the former who would destroy her fair proportions and make tures of previous years? We are far from wishexpedition, and some of them foreigners—were are her a shapeless mass of ruins!" expedition, and some of them foreigners-were arrested upon affidavit made of similar present designs, and, being taken before a United States Commissioner, (Mr. BRIGHAM,) were held to bail to answer the charge in the Court of the United States.

The very proper action by the Executive of the United States, and the promptness with which the United States authorities in New York have seconded it, have, let us trust, nipped in the bud this new conspiracy against the peace and the honorable repute of our country.

LONDON EXHIBITION.

We are pleased to learn that the SECRETARY of the INTERIOR has commissioned one of the Agents of the United States Executive Committee at London, Charles F. Stansbury, Esq., to make a report of all those matters connected with the Industrial Exhibition which may be calculated to enlighten us on the present state of the mechanic arts in Europe. The Report will be published under the direction of the Commissioner of Patents, and, from the known taste, industry, and ability of Mr. Stansbury, will be well calculated to promete the cause of science and diffuse valuable information among our own people.

The steamer Ohio sailed from New York on Friday for Chagres, taking out two hundred pas-

Mexico.-We have dates from Mexico, by way of Havana, to the 1st instant, but without much news. The Minister of Finance, Sr. ESTERA, had resigned. His post is taken for the present by the Minister of Justice, Sr. AGUIERE. The French Minister M. LEVASSEUR had accompanied his wife to Vera Cruz, and this had given rise to a false report that he was about to leave the country. There seems to be a good deal of feeling in opposition to the Tehuantepec treaty, but it is not clear that this is not all talk. A Senatorial committee have declared the decree of March 6, 1846, with regard to granting an extension of time, null and void.

More BLOCKS FOR THE MONUMENT. - We learn from the Philadelphia papers that a fine block of light-clouded marble for the Washington Monument is now in course of preparation at the quarry of Major FRITZ. It is contributed by the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of of December 27, 1828. the United States.

We learn also that a handsome Block, tastefully ornamented with the emblems of the Order, has just arrived from Boston, as a contribution from the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of the State of Massachusetts; and that the Grand Lodge of Virginia, of the same Order, at their late annual session in Richmond, made a liberal appropriation to provide

a block to be presented in the name of that body. The repeated contributions which continue to be made, in material as well as money, by the various organized associations of the country, afford gratifying evidence of the patriotic interest felt by the masses of the people in the success of this noble

The St. Louis Intelligencer states that six companies of the 7th Infantry left Jefferson Barracks on the 17th instant, en route for Texas. Four companies of the same regiment left Fort Leavenworth, a few days previous, by the land route, for Fort Gibson, on the Arkansas.

THE LATE CONSPIRACY IN HAYTI.

Late advices from Hayti, received at Boston, urnish some particulars of the late plot to overhrow the existing Imperial Government of Hayti, and to re-establish the Republic. The conspiracy extended all over the Island, and many leading blacks were implicated. In addition to the arrest of a large number at Port au Prince, including one or two of the Ministry, about one hundred were arrested at Cape Haytien, including several in office; also, the Commissary of Police at Gonaives. At or near the capital the Minister of Public Justice and several of his fellow-conspirators, as well as several of those arrested at Cape Haytien, have been shot. It was supposed that many more would

Relative to the demand made by Com. PARKER of the Saranac, for damages for the illegal imprisonment of Capt. Mayo, of the Leander, we learn secretary to said board, whose duty it shall be, that the Haytien Government informed him, in under instructions from the Treasury Department, substance, that they were willing to pay Capt. to inquire into the condition of the Lighthouse Mayo some compensation, but refused to give the sum demanded for the detention of the vessel. This answer Com. PARKER will report to the authorities at Washington. It is also stated that the Haytien Government refuses to pay the claims in favor of American merchants, to which Mr. GREEN, and more latterly Mr. Walsh, has been deputed to

Mr. Walsh, the American Commissioner, has left the capital for other parts of the Island. What was the result of his negotiations, in conjunction with the French and English consuls, to induce Emperor Sologue to settle the quarrel between the Haytiens and Dominicans, is not certainly known,

It was the general opinion that Soloque was never more powerful in the Island than at the present moment.

We learn that ROGER C. WEIGHTMAN, Esq. has been appointed Chief Clerk in the Patent Office, in the place of DeWitt Lawrence, Esq. resigned; and that Messrs. LANE and Cooper, Assistant Examiners, having been promoted, their places have been filled by the appointment of Thomas H. DEWITT, of New York, and HENRY BALDWIN, of

A correspondent of one of our Northern exchanges, commenting upon the recent slave case in Boston, alludes to Mr. Tukey, the City Marshal, who has been frequently mentioned of late for his porting generally on any point connected with the promptness in arresting gamblers and other offenders, and especially for his energy in aiding to prevent any outbreak of the abolitionists and to preserve the peace of the city, which services seem not to have been fortunate enough to obtain the approval of this writer. He says he is weary of the Atlantic coast, from Eastport to Cape Florida. Tukey. Beside the modern instances which might be quoted to sustain the worthy Marshal under this disapprobation, we hope that his historical reading will serve to recall to his recollection the large expenditures by the Quartermaster's Departparallel case of an Athenian of old, in favor of ment; and yet, by a most extraordinary onission whose ostracism the voter could only allege as a or neglect, that department is left without alequate reason that he was tired of hearing him called the means to discharge its important duties.

> the 20th instant. The Lexington Observer says reducing the appropriations for the support of the that his health has greatly improved since he left army far below the estimates, and that too in oppo-New Orleans, where he was laboring under the effects of a cold, probably contracted during his on Military Affairs, the chairman of which (Mr. voyage from Havana. It adds: "At no period of Burt) challenged the chairman of the Committee Mr. CLAY's illustrious and ever-memorable career of Ways and Means to point out a single item of has he enjoyed to the extent he now does the sincere and heartfelt admiration and regard of almost spared to do battle for his country against those priated for this year to the payment of expendi-

> It is stated, to the credit of the Bostonians, that out of 490 men composing the Boston Light Infantry Regiment, under the command of Lieut. Col. Boyn, only one man was found reluctant to trifle with the lives of the defenceless inhabitants volunteer in arms to support the U. S. Marshal in of the frontier. We leave to others to speculate the execution of the Fugltive Slave act, during the about reasons or motives. The fact, however, is recent excitement there on that subject.

As a matter of interest to the survivors of the family, it is proper to correct an error in a late statement in this paper. Commodore WALTER BROOKE was commander-in-chief of the State naval forces of Virginia during a part of the Revolutionary war. He having resigned, Commodore James BARRON succeeded him as commander-in-chief, and served to the end of the war.

The Convention of Delegates from the States Rights Associations of South Carolina is to beld on Monday next, at Charleston. Upon this Convention, it is said, the future course of the State will

ROBERT M. McLane, Esq. of Baltimore, late Representative of that District in Congress, was among the passengers for California who sailed from New York in the steamer Ohio on Friday

MASSACHUSETTS SPECIAL ELECTION .- A special election is appointed to be held in the 2d. 4th, and 7th Congressional Districts of Massachusetts on the 26th of May for the choice of Representatives in the next Congress. These being the second trials under the new law in those districts, (which have hitherto failed to elect,) a plurality of votes will lecide the contest.

THE WOODWORTH PATENT CASE.

The Philadelphia Ledger of Saturday publishes report of the Charge of Judge GRIER, in the United States Circuit Court for that District, in the case of "Sloat vs. Spring and others, for an infringement of the Woodworth patent," with the finding of the Jury in the case, and the remarks Garay's contract with the American Company, of the Judge thereupon. These last are sufficiently important to claim a place in our columns, as

VERDICT .- The Jury found : 1st. That Wm. Woodworth was the original inventor of the machine patented by him December 27, 1828.

2d. That the reissued patent of July 8, 1845, is for the same invention, intended to have been patented by the patent 3d. That the machine of the defendants infringes upon the

When the jury brought in their verdict, Judge GRIER remarked :

said amended patent of July 8, 1845.

"I am obliged to you, gentlemen, for bringing in you werdict so soon, and, as I think, rightly. The Woodworth patent has been tried in every circuit court in the Union, over and over again; and verdicts always found, upon evi ence undoubted, in its favor; and yet men will come almost every day and swear against its originality. I will consider it prima facie evidence of perjury in any person denying the validity of the Woodworth petent, or at least swearing to what he does not know to be true; and so I warn any man who comes with such an oath again. I hope no counsel will have any thing more to do with it; I have had trouble enough, and the time of the court has been too much consur ed with these cases. After twenty-three years' possession, and ver-dict upon verdict in its favor, men will still come forward and swear that something of the same kind existed before. Men will always be found to swear that some of the most important inventions in the world existed some forty years ago, and were then abandoned and lost sight of; but disc

so important to the world are not so easily lost sight of. I

hope no gentleman will ever ask me to try an issue upon this patent again."

THE FRONTIER AND THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

Every arrival from California, from Texas, and New Mexico, brings intelligence of some new outrage perpetrated by the Indians. There is every reason to believe that, encouraged by the impunity with which these outrages have hitherto been oo often committed, they will make fearful inroads into the white settlements during the approaching

The War Department, we are informed, is employing all the resources at its command to avert hese calamities, but those resources are entirely disproportioned to the magnitude of the service.

The Executive has done its duty in this matter. The PRESIDENT, in his annual message, and the SECRETARY OF WAR and Commanding General, in their respective reports at the opening of the last session of Congress, all united in earnestly recommending an additional number of mounted menexperience having shown that infantry is of but little service against an enemy who is almost always mounted. Congress paid no attention to these recommendations.

But this was not all. At an early period of the ession the Secretary of War addressed communications to the Committee of Ways and Means, informing them that the appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department for the current fiscal year (ending 30th June next) would be insufficient. This deficiency arose in part from the fact that a portion of these appropriations had been applied to the payment of expenditures made or debts contracted during preceding years. Such deficiencies, in some one of the Departments, or in all of them, occur every year, and are provided for as a matter of course; and yet the Committee of Ways and Means paid not the smallest attention to this communication. The consequence is, that the appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department for he current year are already exhausted. Important movements are now going on in the army requiring heavy disbursements in that department. Besides its ordinary expenditures, necessarily large in countries singularly destitute of all the means and appliances required for the support o'an army, services of an unusual character are required of it. An entire regiment (the mounted riflemen) are now on their way from Oregon to Texas; a rigiment of infantry has just been ordered from Jefferson barracks to the Indian country west of Arkansas; while the regiment now stationed in he latter country has been ordered further west to establish a chain of posts extending through the north of Texas, from Red river to the Rio Grante. Add to this that the War Department has been called upon to furnish escorts to the commission for surveying the Mexican boundary, to the party engaged in surveying the river Gila under a resontion of Congress, and to the Indian superintendents and hearing his name, Tukey, Tukey-nothing but agents created by recent acts to negotiate treaties with the Indians in California, and the mmerous tribes that infest the vast plains and mountains on the route to Oregon. All these operations require

Some time since we alluded to the fact that the Committee of Ways and Means of the House of Mr. CLAY returned to his home at Ashland on Representatives had assumed the responsibility of the estimates that could be reduced.

We understand that the excuse for this haphathe entire population of Kentucky. They regard him as a great public benefactor, instead of, as formerly, a great party leader; and even the fiercest long before it expired, and consequently in time to of his hitherto political opponents do not hesi-tate to award to him the meed of praise to offered for omitting to provide for an ascertained which his recent patriotic efforts in behalf of our deficiency in the appropriations for the current glorious Union give him just claim. Long may year-a deficiency, too, occasioned, in part, as we the noble old patriot, statesman, and orator be have said, by the applications of the funds approcannot suppose it possible that the Committee of Ways and Means sought to embarrass the Administration by withholding supplies; we cannot believe that party spirit could be carried so far as to undoubted, and if adequate protection is not afforded to the people of the frontier, we wish them, and we wish the whole country to understand where the fault and the responsibility lie. - Republic.

> Monstrous .- The Journal of Commerce quotes the following speech of Mr. George Thompson, in Canada. We rarely read Mr. Thompson's speeches, and have not met with the passage ourselves. If his words are correctly reported, the speaker is beyond the pale of decent society : "I do not believe there is one Minister in the United States who believes what he says. I know enough of Ministers in that country to believe that they preach wilfully and designedly what they know to be false! These men deliberately go to their closets, and, for purely political and pro-slavery purposes, write sermons for the Sabbath day, which they all the while know to be palpably and damnably untrue!" What must have been the feelings of his travelling companion, the Rev. Mr. Max, of Syracuse, formerly of Boston? Could that gentleman keep his seat and hear such sentiments uttered? Such was not the case with Mr. Morse, the senior editor of the New York Observer, who happened to be in London when Mr. Thompson gave utterance to statements equally false, which Mr. Morse contra-

dicted, and put the defamer to silence. - Com. Adv. ANOTHER ANTI-RENT OUTRAGE.-We learn from the Albany Register that on Wednesday last a body of Anti-Renters, in that county, perpetrated another of those outrages which have of late years so repeatedly brought reproach upon that part of the State. In this case, the victim of the malice of these outlaws had committed the offence, according to their peculiar notions of honesty, of serving process in several case of delinquency for rent on the part of some of their agrarian associates. For doing this they had resolved to punish him and accordingly, on Wednesday last, whilst he was engaged, agreeably to previous appointment, in measuring off the widow's dower of a farm about seven miles from Rensselaer ville, a band of twenty or thirty cowardly ruffians, well armed. and disguised as Indians, suddenly seized and bound him, and afterwards forced him to submit to the indignity of a coaof tar and feathers, which was inflicted under circumstance of diabolical cruelty. After this, when his persecutors had in vain endeavored to extort from him a promise to serve no more papers, he was permitted to go to his home, which he reached about midnight. In stating the particulars of this outrage the "Register" expresses its indignation that such offences should have prevailed in that region for so many years, and that the law has so far become a dead letter that no redress can be obtained by the injured party. Shame that it is so. Such are the inevitable consequences of some of the doctrines of the "progressive" school of the present day and it is a pity that those who, by inculcating these doctrines, stimulate their ignorant followers to the perpetration of crimes of which they cannot comprehend the magnitude, could not also be made to suffer the severest penalties due to the deluded people who commit such offences.

The Boston Courier states that orders from the Department at Washington have been received at the Charleston Navy Yard for the construction of a War Steamer at that place. She is to be larger than the Princeton, which was broken up year or two since, and will be built on about the same plan,

commanding, thirty days from Pensacols, arrived here night tors, as well as facilitate the progress of the work.

[Lynchburg Virginian.

THE CITY OF BOSTON AND Ma. WEBSTER.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Common Council of the city of Boston on Wednesday the President read the following letters:

COMMON COUNCIL ROO

Bosros, APRIL 18, 1851. Dasa Sru : I have the honor to transmit a certified copy of the preamble and resolutions, adopted by the unar rote of the Common Council of this city at their session of last evening, in reference to the refusal by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the request of your friends for the use of Fareuil Hall.

One of the rules of the Common Council provides that "in all cases the President may vote." I cheerfully availed myself of the privilege by recording my "aye" on the passage of the reamble and resolutions. It is with pleasure that I comply with the instructions of the Board to transmit to you the reading of books. He labors under an infirmity of sight, an attested copy of them.

I renain, very sincerely, your friend and obd't serv't, PRANCIS BRINLEY, President. Hon DANIEL WEBSTER, Marshfield, Mass.

MARSHFIELD, SATURDAY MORNING,
APRIL 19, 1851.
My DEAR SIR: I have received your communication ansmitting copies of the preamble and resolutions adopted on the 17th instant by the unanimous vote of the bedy over which you preside.

I should be incapable of all just emotion if I deleyed a moent to express my grateful thanks for a proceeding so friendand so honorable towards myself.

I wish my stay in this vicinity could be such as to afford ne an opportunity of calling, individually, upon you and all circumstances. the members, and paying to each my personal regards.

There are, I know, members of the Council who entertain political opinions different from my own, and this makes me the more anxious to signify, in an emphatic manner, my sense, not only of the kindness and courtesy, but also of the manliness and independence which characterize their votes. I shall not have the pleasure, during my present visit, of

neeting the citizens of Boston. That I have done within the last year, to maintain the Union, and preserve the relations of peace, friendly intercourse, commerce, and business among all the States, has not been done in a corner; and I shall not go into a corner o perform what may remain to be done. Nor shall I enter Faneuil Hall till its gates shall be thrown open, wide open, not "with impetuous recoil, grating harsh thunder," but with "harmonious sound, on golden hinges moving," to let diameter at base, and has a round, hollow stems, with knots in, freely and to overflowing, you and your fellow-citizens, and all men, of all parties, who are true to Union as well as to liberty, man who see look around on the force of the Education. The cames are met with on the banks of all the rivers to liberty; men who can look around on the faces of the Patriots which adorn the walls of that secred Temple, draw inwith their deepest breath the appropriate inspiration, and stands

Texas. The canes are met with on the banks of all the rivers
in the extreme Southern and Southwestern States, particularin the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisians, and
with their deepest breath the appropriate inspiration, and stands upright and erect upon its pavement, in mind and heart elate, in the consciousness that they, teo, are Americans, lovers of their country, and their whole country, and not unworthy to their country, and their whole country, and not unworthy to an incredibly short period. They formedense thickets, the follow in the footsteps of their great forefathers.

my voice shall be heard once more in the Cradle of American

Till then, again thanking you and the members of the Council, I bid you and them farewell.

DANIEL WEBSTER.

To Francis Brinley, Esq.
President of the Board of Common Council of Boston.

capitulation by cour		as follow		
	Foster.	Seymour.		Scat.
Hartford	.5,782	6,271	415	
New Haven		5,096	371	8
New London		3,659	386	2:
Fairfield	4,407	4,677	148	3
Windham	2,101	2,279	485	
Litchfield	3,994	3,938	398	
Middlesex	1,921	2,330	182	2:
Tolland		1,827	145	2
Total, 1851 2	8,756	30,077	2,530	17/
Total, 1850 5		29,022	2,976	5.0
Increase	547	1,055	446 decreases	

THE COAST SURVEY .- The new Bulletin of the Geographical Society of Paris contains an histori- of Sciences, which produced whirlwinds accompanied by certainty. We congratulate the people of Michigan, therecal notice of the Coast Survey of the United States. thunder."

The concluding paragraph is as follows: "In mentioning the eminent services rendered to science and humanity by the Coast Survey, we communicate but a small part of the results of this admirable enterprise. Directed as it is in all its branches, with zeal and activity, it cannot fail to add from year to year to the estimation in which it is held, not in the United States only, but still more in all the foreign countries where science and the applications of science to the arts of life are justly appreciated.'

STEAM SAWMILL FOR LIBERIA.

In the barque Baltimore, which was chartered by the Ame rican Colonization Society, and which sailed from Savannah, Georgia, on the 10th of April, with 126 emigrants, a company of the emigrants carried with them a Steam Smemill. with all the necessary appurtenances, to be located in the county of Sinou, in Liberia. The cost of the whole machinery at Savannah was about \$2,000, the greater part of which was paid by an enterprising black man of Savannah, named EDWARD HALL, who, by industry and economy, had been nabled to purchase himself, his wife, and two grown brothers. all of whom accompanied him.

This will be the first introduction of steam machinery into liberia; but as a joint stock company of free colored persons n Virginia has lately been formed for the purpose of purchasing and carrying out a steam-mill, and as another company in Charleston, South Carolina, are making arrangements to carry out one next spring, the prospects of introducing steam machinery commensurate with the wants of the citizens of Liberia eems to be quite encouraging.

The steamer Cleopatra, which has been detained at New York on the ground of having been purchased for the Cuba expedition, is an old boat, which was formerly employed on the Sound. She is a capacious steamer, and had on board a large quantity of coal, occupying the forward cabin and hold, oiler rooms, and a quantity piled on the forward deck great number of water-casks, capable of containing some ,000 gallons of water; and some sugar-boxes, &c., such as re-arms are usually packed in, but on examining them they were found to contain hams and other articles. No firearms or munitions of war have been found on board. It was aleged that she was bound for Texas, and a Capt. Wilson laimed to be her commander.

The New York Courier gives the proceeds of an invoice of goods shipped by a firm of that city to California, the prime cost of which was \$120. The sum realized on it was \$533.50, about 400 per cent. The charge, however, for freight, storage, auction duties, &c. amounted to \$533.36, leaving a baance due on the original shipment of fourteen cents, which, with thirty-six cents more, were used up in paying the postage from San Francisco on the letter conveying an account of the transaction.

The Order in the State is represented to be in a prosperous condition; as, indeed, it appears to be in most, if not all, the other States. The entire number of its Lodges, exclusive of Encampments, is about 2,500, with some 200,000 contributing members, and an annual revenue of a million and a half [Cincinnati Enquirer.] of dollars, which is liberally expended in advancing the beneficent purposes of the institution.

TRIBUTE TO PRESCOTT, THE HISTORIAN.

In a publication of the speeches of the Duke of Argyle, the Earl of Eglintoun and others, at a soirce of the Glasgow Athensum, held in the City Hall of that place, January 28, 1851, we find the following that place, January 28, 1851, we find the following that place of Lareano Pineds, president that place of Lareano Pineds that passage complimentary to Wm. H. Prescott, Esq., in the speech of the Duke of Argyle:

"Scotland, during the past year, was visited by a very minent historian from the United States. My friend, Mr. Sheriff Alison, had the honor of entertaining him, and so had I. I mean Mr. Prescott, the author of the History of Ferdinand and Isabella. I ask you to attend to the circumstances of this gentleman. He is laboring under a personal infirmity, which prevents him from having that intimate and extensive knowledge, at least through the same media which other men acquire, by being able to devote their leisure hours to and can only, therefore, use in his writings those materials which he gathers from the reading of other persons. Mr. Prescott is a republican, born in the West, accuston publican ideas in his own country, and imbued with all the spirit of republican patriotism. Look at the effect which historical reading and historical study have had upon his highly cultivated mind. He has presented to you and to Europe s history of the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella, written with great brilliancy of imagination, and with all the warmth of neart and loyalty which you might have expected from a cavalier or a courtier of Queen Isabella herself, [cheers,] so that by following that history you can enter into the spirit of that time, and have your interest as much excited as if you were reading a tale of the present day, and of your own

BURNING OF A CAME-BRAKE.

De Bow's Southern Review for April notices amphlet, by A. F. Olmsten, A. M., illustrated by an engraving, showing the extraordinary variety of whirlwinds occasioned by the burning of a canebrake in North Alabama. The flames and smoke ascend after a most singular manner, and give rise to some curious investigations, which we have not space to follow with the ingenious author. From his work the "Review" extracts a description of the cane-brake:

"The cane, as is well known, belongs to the order of grasses, (Graminess, family Avenacess)) it grows to a height of thirty-five or forty feet, although but an inch or two in If Providence shall be pleased to spare my life and health-till that hour comes, I shall meet the citizens of Boston, and-my voice shall be heard once more in the Cradle of American thickets there are occasional passages due to streamlets or some variation of seil. There are occasional large trees here and there in a cane-brake, which probably started before the cane covered the land; but almost all other vegetation is excluded. In clearing such land only a few simple tools are employed—as a carpenter's adze, or an axe, or a heavy kind of hoe, called a 'cane-hoe'—and a single blow is sufficient to Connecticut Election.—The Hartford Courant publishes the official returns of the vote for this way an acre of land is soon cleared. To prepare it for Governor at the late election in Connecticut. The recapitulation by counties is as follows: tillage. From the case with which it is cleared, and from the fertility of the soil, (which may be accurately determined by the size of the canes,) cane-land is preferred above all others in the region.
"The canes lie-for a month or six weeks to dry, and then

are gethered into heaps and set on fife in several places at once. As soon as the burning begins, the air that is confined in the hollow jointed stalks, and also the watery vapor, expand and burst the canes as under with a loud report. These explosions occurring from a vast number of canes at These explosions occurring from a vast number of canes at the same time, produce a continued roar like the discharge of musketry from an immense army, while the flames roll on with great rapidity. No other sound besides this continued roaring is heard in the progress of the fire. This scene, therefore, differs widely from fires of brush and timber, such as those described in the thirty-sixth volume of the Journal

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

FROM THE "PRISONER'S PRIEND" FOR APRIL. We know not when a more singular case has

been presented than the following from an English paper. It shows how likely judges and jurors are to be mistaken, and how often the innocent have been convicted:

A young, gentleman, articled to an attorney in London, was tried on five indictments for different acts of theft. A person resembling the prisoner in size and general appearance had called at various shops in the metropolis, for the purpose of looking at jewelry, books, and other articles, with the pretended intention of making purchases, but made off with the property placed before him while the shop-keepers were en-gaged in looking out the other articles. In each of these cases the prisoner was positively identified by several persons, while in a majority of them an alibi was clearly and positively established, and the young man was proved to be of orderly habits and irreproachable character, and under no temptation, from want of money, to resort to acts of dishonesty. Similar person resembling the prisoner, and those persons proved that, though there was a considerable resemblance to the prisoner, ne was not the person who had robbed them. The prisoner, was not the person who had rooted users. The prisoner was convicted on one indictment, but acquitted on all the others; and the judges and jurors who tried the three last cases expressed their conviction that the prosecutor had been robbed by another person resembling the prisoner. A pardon was immediately procured in respect of that charge on which the conviction had taken place.

Not many months before the last mentioned case a respectable young man was tried for highway robbery committed in the neighborhood of Bethnal Green, in which neighborhood both he and the prosecutor resided. The prosecutor swore positively that the prisoner was the man who robbed him of his watch. The counsel for the prisoner called a genteel young woman, to whom the prisoner pand his address. young woman, to whom the prisoner paid his addresses, who gave evidence which proved a complete alibi. The prosecutor was then ordered out of court, and in the interval anothe young man, of the name of Greenwood, who awaited his trial on a capital charge of felony, was introduced, and placed by the side of the prisoner. The prosecutor was again placed in the witness box, and addressed thus: "Remember, sir, the life of this young man depends upon your reply to the question I am about to put. Will you swear again that the young man at the bar is the person who assaulted you?" The witness turned towards the dock, when, beholding two men so near alike, he became petrified with astonishment, dropped his hat, and was speechless for a time, but at length declined swearing to either. The young man was of course acquitted. Greenwood was tried for another offence and executed; and a few hours before his death acknowledged that he had committed the robbery with which the other was charged.

On Friday last, while the friends of Mr. Sumner, in Reading, were celebrating his election by a discharge of cannon, a premature discharge took place, by which Mr. Eben Buxton had both arms blown off, so that it was necessary to amputate them above the elbow. His recovery is doubtful. Mr. Lewis Gleason had his right arm and two fingers of his left hand blown off.

JAMES M. H. BRUNET, of Petersburg, Grand Master;
JOHN R. EDNONDS, of Fanquier county, Deputy Grand Master;
JOHN V. K. EBBERT, of Wheeling, Grand Warden;
DAVID H. REED, of Richmond, Grand Secretary; GEORGE
W. TOLER, of Richmond, Grand Treasurer; ISHAEL ROBINSON, GRAND Representative to the Grand Lodge of the United
States.

The Output Matthodist Episcopal Church South are DANIEL LORD, of New York; REVERDY JOHNSON, of Maryland; and DANIEL WEBSTER, of Massachusetts. For the General Church South are DANIEL Corp.

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RAPIDITY OF THE NERVOUS CURRENT .-- In a paper prea year or two since, and will be built on about the same plan, and have the same mode of propulsion.

The Norfolk Beacon of Saturday says: The U.S. Surveying Schooner Wm. A. Graham, Passed Midshipman Fax commanding, thirty days from Pen-acols, arrived here night before last.

An opening was effected through the Tunnel near Lynch-lung of the propagation of the nervous gences, "On the rapidity of the propagation of the nervous irritation passed over a space of 50 to 60 millimetres (about 2 inches) in from which he conflort and convenience of the operators, as well as facilitate the progress of the work.

[Lynchburg Virginian.]

Sented to the French Academy of Sciences, "On the rapidity of the propagation of the nervous gences," William Hyde; Sailmaker, William Hyde; Sailmaker, William Mahoney.

An opening was effected through the Tunnel near Lynch-lung of the propagation of the nervous irritation passed over a space of 50 to 60 millimetres (about 2 inches) in from which he conflort and convenience of the operators, the less appears to be the rapidity of the nervous agent.

FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.

The election of Director of Nicaragua has resulted in the choice of Lareano Pineds, a distinguished statesman, who re-

Vas Concelos, President of San Salvador, has been impeached, for having made war on Guatemala without the sanction of Congress. The Vice President, Quitros, who belongs to the moderate or conservatory party, has taken the reins of Government, and concluded arrangements for the settlement of the questions pending with Guatemals and the British Charge, Mr. Chatfield. In consequence of this, Carrera had evacuated San Salvador, and the British blockade had been raised.

The Congress of Guatemala had been convoked to meet. Among those elected is Mr. Ignacio Comez, who has been for a short time on a visit to this country.

There has been a fearful earthquake in Costa Rica, which ins destroyed the city of Alsjuela, and much damaged the copital, San Jose. It occurred, we believe, on the 34th ultimo. Alajuela is a town of from ten to fifteen thousand

A. LATE SNOW STORM .- On Saturday, the 19th instant. at noon, a very severe snow storm commenced on the Highlands, in Orange county, (N. Y.) about four miles back from the Hudson river, which continued until Sunday even-ing. The snow fell about two feet deep, but the great rains which immediately followed, together with the congenial warmth of the spring, caused it soon to disappear.

The Cecil Whig states that the amount of business done on the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal last week was greater than in any previous week since it was made. In order that it may be able to do the full amount of world in the dry season, the company are putting up at Checapeake City powerful water works, to throw water from the Back creek

BRWARD COLSTON, Fig., of Berkeley county, Virginia, a gentleman well known throughout that Commonwealth for all the qualities which adorn a men and christian, died suddenly on Wednesday night at his residence.

CDEVASES ON THE MISSISSTPP. -It is estimated that two hundred families, numbering one thousand souls, are now houseless and desolate from the inundation in the New River country; in the parishes of Iberville and Ascension, (Lou.) A committee of the citizens of New-Orleans has been appointed to solicit and receive subscriptions in aid of the sufferers.

TRIME FOR MANSLAUGHTER .- In the Municipal Court at Boston, last week, Dr. Timothy H. Smith, charged with killing two children by malprastice, was tried on a charge of manslaughter. The Jury did not agree on a verdict. They acquitted the accessed of the charger so far as it regarded one of the children, and in the case of the other stood five for conviction and seven for acquittal.

VERY CURIOUS RELICS .- A friend has placed in our ssion quite an antiquated specimen of the human shull. Its form is -peculiar, being very low-in front and running up straight behind to the height of six or eight inches, forming quite a mound in the coronal region of the head; the width between the case is immense, and it extends upward in a sloping direction towards the crown. We have also seen broken pieces of earthen jars, pipes, beads, &c. all of which are said to have been washed up from the earth quite nearthe Pee Dee river, by the late freshet. We learn from a gentleman who saw the place where they were discovered, that it was in a field on the bank of the river which has been cultivated many years. The water burst over a dam which had been constructed to keep the water from the field, and washed channel in which was found six large earthen jars, containing a number of curious articles, among which was a stone hatchet. In one jar was found almost a complete human skeleton, from which the above-mentioned skull was obtain-

ed. Every thing bears the evidence of its having been the work of some tribe of Indians long since passed away. [Darlington (S. C.) Flag

IMPORTAND RAILWAY MOVEMENT. - We learn from the Detroit Daily Advertiser that J. W. BROOKS, the efficent superintendent of the Michigan Central railroad, has succeeded in making arrangements for the completion of the road from Michigan city to the Illinois line, and thence to Chicago. This has been accomplished wishout the aid of legislation. and in a manner to render it liable to no contingency or unfore, upon the prospect of a swift and speedy communication between Bullalo and Chicago, by the way of Detroit. The iron for the line of road between Michigan city and Chicago is purchased, work will be immediately begun upon it, and prosecuted without delay until it is finished.

From the Toledo Daily Blade we learn that a connexion has been agreed upon between the Michigan Southern railway and the Rusk river railway. This, when effected, will make the outhern road and its western connexions the longest continuous line of railroad in the country. The Rock river railroad connects with another which unites Davenport with Iowa city, and this latter with still another that terminates at Council Bluffs in the Indian territory-Albany Argus.

Drine Declarations .- From an article in the Washington (Wilkes county) Gazette we learn that Judge Bax-TER, of the Northern Circuit of Georgia, has recently decided that the dying declarations of a man cannot be given in evidence on a trial for murder. This is an important decision, and overturns the common law as understood and heretofore administered. The point was presented on the trial of Lovet for the murder of Bell, in the county of Warren, and was argued by Messrs. Toomas, Cone, and Porris for the prisoner, and Solicitor WEEMS, GARTRELL, and Dawson for the State. It was contended by the prisoner's counsel that the sixth article of amendments to the Constitution of the United States guarantied to every man accused of a crime the right "to be confronted with the witnesses against him," &c. To admit the dying declarations of the deceased, it was further contended, was a virtual denial of this right, and the Court so believing ruled out the testimony. The prisoner was discharged. We are not lawyers enough to judge of the correctness of this decision, and have only noticed it that the legal fraternity may turn their attention to the point involved in this important adjudication.

[Columbus Enquirer.

The late fire at GRAND GULF, Mississippi, is supposed to have originated from the sparks of a passing steamer, which set fire to a building near the wharf. The only engine in the town being out of repair, and a high wind blowing, the people were unable to master the flames until some twenty buildings were consumed, including a block of brick stores, the new Presbyterian church, the office of the Claiborne Gazette, two taverns, and Mr. Halloway's warehouse containing 1,000 bales of cotton. The total loss is stated at one hundred thousand dollars.

FIRE IN HONESDALE, (PA.)-A fire broke out at Hones dale (Pa.) on Friday night, in the vicinity of the canal ba-sin, which destroyed property to the amount of \$150,000. Nearly three blocks in the centre and most business part of Nearly three blocks in the centre and most cusiness part of the place are a heap of ruins. Among the property destroyed is Henwood's market; two stores belonging to Edward Mur-ray; two belonging to Edward Strong; the storehouse of the Hudson and Delaware Company; and Snyder's flour store. The canal bridge on Maine street also fell a prey to the deouring element.

WILD PIGEORS.—The Eric Railroad brought to the New York market on Friday seven tons of wild pigeons. Since the pigeon season commenced, probably not less than seventy-five tons have found their way to the same market, printy-five tons have found their way to the same market, printy-five tons have found their way to the same market, printy-five tons have found their way to the same market, printy-five tons have found their way to the same market. cipally from the counties of Steuben and Alleghany.

NAVAL.—The U. S. sloop-of-war John Adams, Comma der Bannon, bound to Madeira and Coast of Africa, sailed from Hampton Roads on Thursday. The following is a list of her officers :

Commander, Samuel Barron; Lieutenants, Henry Frenchs Teorge T. Sinclair, J. A. Doyle, Johnson B. Carter, Issac G. Strain; Surgeon, Wm. B. Sinclair; Master, James Higgins; Assistant Surgeon, Vm. B. Shotali; master, sames ing gins; Assistant Surgeon, James F. Hustus; Midshipmen, John Irwin, C.F. Thomas, B. Boyd, jr. Marshall C. Camp-bell, Charles A. Babcock, George F. B. Barber; Captain's Clerk, Samuel Barron, jr.; Boatswain, Wm. Black; Gun-ner, John Owens; Carpenter, William Hyde; Sailmaker,